RPP:156A-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Yasmin Thanavala et al.

Art Unit:

1651

Serial No:

09/420,695

Filed:

10/19/1999

Examiner:

M. Flood

For:

ORAL IMMUNOLOGY

USING PLANT PRODUCT CONTAINING HEPATITIS

SURFACE ANTIGEN

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of October 4, 2000.

The withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 112, 35 U.S.C. 102 and 35 U.S.C. 101 rejections is noted with appreciation.

Claims 1 and 4-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Arntzen et al. (B) in view of Koprowski et al. (A), and further in view of Stites et al. (U).

With respect to claim 1, this is a new ground of rejection!!

Claim 1 was not previously rejected upon a combination of three references but rather upon combinations of two references, i.e., Arntzen <u>or</u> Koprowski in view of Stites et al.